Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

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R 230530Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3784

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

CONFIDENTIAL ISLAMABAD 0741

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AF, PK, LY, TU

SUBJECT: GOP VIEW OF DORDAH MISSION

REF: KABUL 458

1. DURING MEETING JANUARY 22, AGHA SHAHI TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT ADDITIONAL FOREIGN SECRETARY SHAHNAWAZ WOULD BE GOING TO TRIPOLI IN NEAR FUTURE TO EXPLAIN GOP SIDE OF ABORTED "DORDAH MISSION." AGHA SHAHI NOTED THAT TIMING OF GOP ANNOUNCEMENT OF DISQUALIFICATION OF NAP OFFICE-HOLDERS FROM ELECTIVE POSITIONS FOR FIVE YEARS WAS DIRECT RESULT OF SUPREME COURT CONFIRMATION OF BAN ON PARTY. THIS FINDING SET IN MOTION SERIES OF LEGAL MEASURES INCLUDING DISQUALIFICATION PROCEEDINGS. LIBYANS WILL BE TOLD THAT FACT THIS NEXT LOGICAL STEP IN LEGAL PROCESS CAME AT SAME TIME AS DORDAH MISSION WAS COMPLETELY COINCIDENTAL, AND WAS IN NO WAY TIED TO PAK/AFGHAN RELATIONS. AS INDICATION OF HOW THIS HAS BECOME STRICTLY LEGAL ISSUE, AGHA SHAHI TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT BHUTTO FIRST LEARNED THAT DISQUALIFI-CATION PAPERS HAD BEEN RECENTLY SERVED ON SEVERAL NAP LEGISLATORS WHEN HE READ ABOUT IT IN NEWSPAPERS. CONFIDENTIAL

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2.AGHA SHAHI ALSO SAID THAT TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTER WAS STILL INTERESTED IN SEEING IF HE COULD PLAY A HELPFUL ROLE IN PAK/AFGHAN RELATIONS, AND TURKS WOULD BE DISCUSSING THIS WITH PAKS AT RCD MINISTERIAL MEETING IN LAHORE BEGINNING JANUARY 29. BYROADE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: DISPUTES, FOREIGN RELATIONS, MINISTERIAL VISITS, INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 23 JAN 1976 Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ISI AMA00741

Document Number: 1976ISLAMA00741
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

Film Number: D760026-0875 From: ISLAMABAD Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760129/aaaaayrn.tel Line Count: 67

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Office: ACTION SS Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS Reference: 76 KABUL 458 Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: greeneet

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 02 JUN 2004

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 JUN 2004 by buchant0>; APPROVED <29 SEP 2004 by greeneet>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MÁY 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: GOP VIEW OF DORDAH MISSION TAGS: PFOR, AF, PK, LY, TU, (DORDAH, BOUZEID) To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006